

# THE PLOTTER

CLACKAMAS COUNTY AREA T/S  
USERS GROUP  
NEWSLETTER

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VOLUME 2, NUMBER 6

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## MEETINGS

Our May meeting was held on May 1, 1984. It was held in Room 31, Randall Hall, Clackamas Community College. The meeting was called to order at 7:40 PM and after opening announcements and the Sec/Treas. report we went on to Old Business.

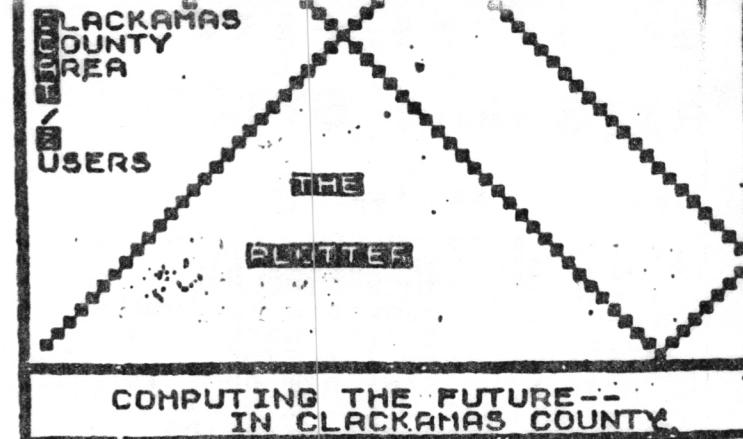
We voted to subscribe to T/S Horizons and Sinclair Computing as soon as we start to receive X Computing from England.

We also voted, after 2 months' discussion, to forget about the item known as Oscar. The Bar code reader.

We also made it official and set \$6.00 per year as the subscription rate for our newsletter, The Plotter. This rate is for non-members who wish to receive our little paper. The figure just covers the cost of producing and mailing it out.

As for New business, we approved the purchase of the Timex Technical Manual at a cost of \$24.95. We have also ordered the schematics for the 2068 at a cost of \$2.50.

We voted, as summer approaches, to skip July this year. That is, we will not have a meeting or put out a newsletter that month. We thought that we should have a HIATUS. Why not? TV stars do. Besides, a lot of people would not have made a meeting that falls on the 5th of July. As for the newsletter, I wanted a vacation. We will have a combined issue for July-August.



After the main portion of our meeting, we had a presentation by Mr. Dave Donaldson, the local representative for CompuCamp Corp.. He showed a short video on the CompuCamp Camp in Newberg Oregon. He was asking for help in his recruiting for the Camps.

The meeting was closed at 8:45 P.M.. We broke up to look at hardware and software that was brought by members.

Our next meeting will be held:

on: Thursday, June 7, 1984  
at: 7:00 P. M.  
in: Rm. 101,  
Community Center  
Clack. Comm. College

Hope to see you there. We will have a demonstration of the Byte Back MD-2B Modem and the Westridge TS 2050 Modem. We hope to have both the 2068 and the 1000 models of the Byte Back units.

Be at our meeting and enjoy computing more.

See you there!!!!\*\*\*\*

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# \*\*\*\*\* BITS and BYTES

Now for the news----

You may know by now, TIMEX SINCLAIR USER has issued its first copy of TIMEX SINCLAIR OPPEP. It is supposed to come quarterly. In it there is a subscription form for TIMEX SINCLAIR NEWS, the new name for TIMEX SINCLAIR USER. I just hope that all of our existing subscriptions will be honored.

After all the fuss about TIMEX SINCLAIR USER being confused with TS USER, we now find out, after the new owner of TIMEX SINCLAIR USER has worked with TS USER and changed their name to TIMEX SINCLAIR NEWS, that TS USER has ceased publication with the April issue.

I have also heard rumors to the effect that SYNC may be reconsidering and may be back. We can only hope.

The new WESTRIDGE TS 2050 MODEM is now here. These are the ones that TIMEX decided not to sell. They are priced at \$119.95 retail.

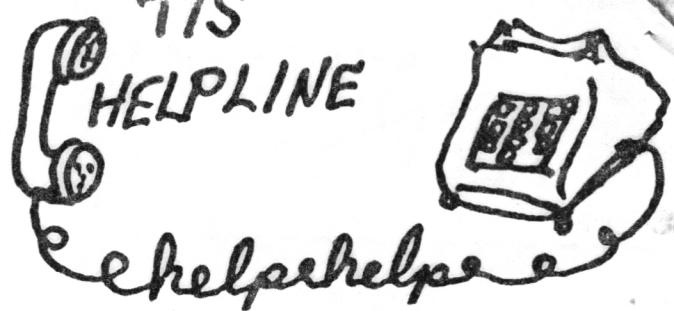
The MD-68 Modem from BYTE BACK is due to be shipped within the next week. They have had some trouble getting the software. They now say that the units will be shipped about the 30th of May or so.

The news that we reprinted from BASIC COMPUTER PROGRAMMING regarding a Mr. Higgenbottom and his bid to market the TIMEX products and associated items, was later said to have fallen through. We have since heard from the group in San Francisco, that the deal is still pending. They said that if the deal does go over, the new corporation will be selling stock. Lets just wait and see.

The Portland Area TS Users Group is still alive. They are still meeting on the second Saturday of the month. For more info, call Kevin Fowler, 252-0844.

This month we are including a list of members for all who have asked for a roster. It is up to date as of this writing.

We have been getting more contributions to the newsletter, but, as always, we need more articles, reviews, and news items. We do wish to thank all who have brought to us so far.



## T/S HELPLINE

It seems to me that I have been getting a lot of calls in the past few weeks from people who are new to computing or new to the 2068. I have talked to and helped out at least 2 people who complained of the same problem: after saving data from a program such as VU-FILE, they could not retrieve the data. After testing the computer and tape recorder in both cases, I tried them with a new copy of the program and a new blank tape, I found that there was no problem with the equipment. I then had them bring their copy of the program for a test. They also checked out OK. Then I found that they were not used to tapes with a leader and therefore they were losing the first bit of data thus preventing the data from being retrieved. I cannot stress strongly enough the importance of leaving plenty of room at the beginning of your tapes to make sure you don't lose any data. I have always made it a habit to START THE TAPE RECORDER, COUNT TO 10, THEN PRESS THE KEY TO START THE SAVE ROUTINE. Using this method I have had no problems. I can only hope that this information will save someone else the frustration of the same problem.

If any of you are having any troubles with your equipment and/or software, please feel free to call us or drop us a line. We will be more than glad to try to help. If we can't, we'll find someone who can.

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# ARTICLE

## PART 1

### A STUDY OF PLOT ON THE 1000 Dick Wagner

The manual is a good start to look at the PLOT function but you can investigate more about it yourself. If you want to start a PLOT at an exact spot on the screen in relation to a PRINT situation you must use the correct PLOT coordinates. A PRINT space contains 4 PLOT pixels and the starting point for counting each pixel is the lower left corner of the PRINT space. Try this:

10 PLOT 0,0

will give the starting corner of PLOT within the PRINT space. To keep track of our PLOT pixel in space use:

10 PRINT AT 20,0; CHR\$ 8

20 PRINT AT 21,1; CHR\$ 8

30 PLOT 0,0

Just change line 30 to look at 1.0; 0.1; 1.1.

You will see that even PLOT numbers for X coordinate, across, is the left half of the PRINT space and the even PLOT numbers for Y coordinates, up, is the lower half of the PRINT space. The first number in PLOT is across and the second is up. An example may help you.

10 PRINT AT 10,10; CHR\$ 8

20 FOR N=10 TO 30

30 PLOT N,21

40 NEXT N

On RUN, the PLOT line will join the bottom of the PRINT character. If 21 is changed to 20, PLOT is a half a line down and for 22, PLOT goes thru the bottom half of PRINT and wipes it out.

To put a line on the right side of PRINT add

50 FOR M=10 TO 30

60 PLOT 22,M

70 NEXT M

Remember, even X coordinates place the PLOT on the left side of PRINT columns, so by changing 22 to 19 in place of 18, the PLOT is adjacent to the PRINT character.

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NEVER FEAR!! DON'T WORRY!!

ZX-TS P and R will return  
in our next issue. We  
wanted to get our semi-  
annual membership list in  
this issue. SEE YOU THEN!

# SOFTWARE REVIEW

### ZEUS ASSEMBLER by Softsynt, Inc.

### Software Review by Dennis Jurries

Anyone interested in machine code on the Sinclair 2068 will find this program a most valuable tool. The program allows a person to enter machine language mnemonics, assemble them at any address you choose, and run the mc program. Errors in format are pointed out and allow-ed to be corrected. You can indent loops and give loops a four letter name and the program automatically address the loops. The Zeus mc listing can be saved as can the user mc. I highly recommend the ZEUS ASSEMBLER to the person who is serious about mc Programming.

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## LIBRARY NOTES

Laura Gowen, our Librarian, has been working to get the magazines and books, as well as the newsletters, cataloged and into a card file. This will help a lot in keeping track of who donated items for the group to use. The catalog will also include donated tapes in the near future. When the cards are completed, we will transfer all data to the computer using ZX Profile. The library is growing to a size that will soon make it too large to bring to the meetings. We may have to discuss this at the next meeting. Keep up the good work, Laura.

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## A 2040 HINT

### A 2040 PRINTER HINT Dick Wagner

The problem of crooked running paper can be solved. Just grasp the paper close to the case on the edge you want to shift the paper toward. With a spare finger press the advance button and while the paper is moving it can be shifted sideways. Of course this correction must be made before you start to print.

# ##### ##### ##### #####

# FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK-

Well, summer has finally arrived and more and more of us are looking forward to vacations, picnics and outdoor activities. I know that a lot of us will continue to make use of our T/S computers.

Received word today that SYNC is giving it's subscribers the choice of Creative Computing or Computers and Electronics. Not much of a choice.

With our vacation coming up, I think that this is a good time for all of you closet writers out there to sit down and put something down on paper for us to print when we resume our newsletter. We can use anything, articles, programs, reviews and news. We would be very happy to hear from some of our new readers out there in T/S Land, the readers and editors of the newsletters that we are now trading with.

As of this writing, we have received 4 replies from the 50 groups that we mailed our newsletter to last month. Not bad, as they have only been out for about 10 days. I think that we will receive many more as I see more and more people wishing to get a national T/S Network going. Let's hope so!!

See you at the June meeting and have a great summer!!

Till then

KEEP ON

PEEKing and POKEing >>>\*\*

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